Supplemental Ambient Surface Water Monitoring Network

The objectives of the Supplemental Ambient Surface Water Monitoring Network (formerly known as the Existing Water Quality Network) are to: (1) supplement the waters monitored and assessed through the DEP/USGS Ambient Stream Network; (2) expand ambient monitoring into selected tidally impacted waterways; and (3) to identify waterways requiring TMDL assessments.

Site selection and monitoring for this Network began in 2000. Over a four year period, 178 sites will be sampled 8 times (quarterly, for two years). Station siting criteria prioritized: (1) locations at the most downstream portion of USGS' Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) watershed areas; (2) locations where DEP has collected biological (macroinvertebrate) data and (3) if possible, local background conditions.

Limited parameters monitored, quarterly, in this Network include:

Field Parameters : Specific conductance, pH, water temperature, D.O., D.O. saturation, turbidity and flow.

Laboratory Parameters: Total suspected solids, total dissolved solids, total phosphorus, dissolved ortho phosphorus, nitrate + nitrite, ammonia, TKN, sulfate, chloride and at selected sites total recoverable iron.

Data from this Network are stored in EPA's STORET database. Additional information regarding this Network is available from the Bureau of Freshwater & Biological Monitoring's webpage (www.state.nj.us/dep/wmm/bfbm).

